

Montana and the Sky



Vol. 31, No. 7

MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

July, 1980

Big Sky Begins New Route

July 1 officially marked the inauguration of Big Sky Airlines' new flights to eight communities in central and eastern Montana and western North Dakota. Last April Big Sky was selected by the Civil Aeronautics Board to provide essential air service at Glasgow, Glendive, Havre, Lewistown, Miles City, Sidney and Wolf Point, Montana and Williston, North Dakota. Big Sky's new service will effectively link the three "high-line" and three "low-line" communities to the Billings hub on the west and the new Bismarck hub on the east. Lewistown will be served to Billings and Havre will be served to Great Falls.

Big Sky Airlines presented community officials with commemorative plaques during brief ground ceremonies conducted at each airport. Big Sky will be serving the new route with Swearingen Metro II's and Cessna 402's.



Big Sky will be serving the central and eastern Montana/western North Dakota communities with Swearingen Metroliners (pictured above) and Cessna 402's.

NOTAM

There is extensive construction being done on the Hamilton Airport. The airport will be under construction from July 14 to September 22, 1980, with equipment adjacent to runway 16 and 34. The first 1,000 feet of 34 will be closed during that period of time, with the entire runway closed from August 11 to 29. There will be no runway lights during the entire construction period.

The Aussies Are Coming!

A group of AOPA-Australia pilots will tour the western United States by light plane this month and would like to meet U.S. pilots during their stop-over. The seven-to-ten plane USA Safari, organized by Shutt Aviation at Moorabbin Airport, Australia, left Van Nuys, California on July 5 and plans on visiting San Jose, Lake Tahoe, Portland, Seattle, Victoria (B.C.), Great Falls, West Yellowstone, Salt Lake City, Denver, Page (AZ), Las Vegas, Big Bear City and return to Van Nuys by the 28th.

Mountain Search Pilot Clinic

We have tentatively set the date of September 19, 20 and 21 of this year for the Mountain Search Pilot Clinic in Kalispell. We will have further details regarding this clinic in the next issue of *Montana and the Sky*. Those pilots who have volunteered as mountain search pilots will be automatically contacted. If you are interested contact our office.

Administrator's Column

Don't forget the Schafer Meadows Fly-in on July 25 to 27. Jack Wilson and Jerry Burrows from our office inspected and completed some preliminary work at the airport. They reported that the airport is in excellent condition with very little additional maintenance necessary, so don't stay away for fear of a hard work schedule!

Herb Sammons, Aeronautics Board Secretary and Chairman of the Schafer Meadows Fly-in persuaded the Aeronautics Board to hold their July meeting on Saturday, July 26th, during the Fly-in. If you have any topics of concern regarding aviation, this will be a good opportunity to meet with the board. Bring your family and fishing rod—we'll see you there!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

It was a most gratifying surprise to be honored at the Montana Pilots Convention held in Billings on June 13 and 14. I am greatly appreciative of the compliments and expressions of appreciation which were extended to me during the convention. I do hate to admit that some of the stories related by Richard O'Brien were fairly accurate! The gifts and awards presented by the MPA and other aviation friends are appreciated. I want to thank everyone involved for their kindness. I would like to congratulate Bob Van Meter for receiving the Pilot of the Year Award; Gary Blain for receiving the Junior Pilot of the Year Award; Jim Thompson for have the misfortune of receiving the Bent Prop Award; and Larry Eliason for receiving the Bill Mathews Award.

I would also like to congratulate the new MPA officers:

President - Lee Baker
Western Vice President - Chet Sammons
Eastern Vice President - Doug Campbell
Treasurer - Ray Curtis
Western Director - Ray Tocci
Eastern Director - Jess Appedaile
Secretary - Patricia Johnson

The outgoing officers are to be commended for their fine job during the past year. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the wonderful convention Ray and Dorothy Curtis organized. It was well-planned and very successful. Their hard work and dedication certainly did not go unnoticed.

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I have been very involved this last month with the Aerospace College Workshops which were sponsored by our office. This year we had six workshops running concurrently - the largest college program we have ever offered. The workshops were held in Butte, Billings, Havre, Helena, Great Falls and Bozeman.

Many people were involved in the success of the program including representatives from NASA, the American Society for Aerospace Education, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Air Force, the Civil Air Patrol, the airlines and many others. The Butte workshop was climaxed by a banquet held on the evening of June 26th. Several of the other workshop directors attended the banquet along with Ed Dahy of the Navy Recruiting office, Helen Frizzell of the American Society of Aerospace Educators, Bill Horvath of NASA, Dr. Turley of Montana Tech, Paula Lindsey of the Aeronautics Division and myself.



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Creative Press

122.9



By: Jerry Burrows

Aviation Representative

What frequency do you use when inbound or outbound from an airport with no flight service station, tower or unicom? You should be using **122.9** as listed in FAA Advisory Circular 90-42B.

This question and its answer was prompted with the upcoming Schafer Meadows Fly-in on July 25 to 27 and by some FBO's who use the airport on a daily basis.

Please broadcast your intentions to the blind on 122.9 when using this airport and other facilities without communications. Also listen for other aircraft who may be broadcasting in the blind. And, of course, watch out for the no-radio craft and others who may be on the airway frequency.

The use of a unicom frequency such as 122.8 to broadcast in the blind should only be used at airports published as having a unicom station and do not respond when called.

Idaho's many mountain strips posed the same communications problems as ours. The following action has been or is being implemented for both states.

All appropriate airports listed in the *Airman's Information Manual* and our airport directory will carry the following notation - "Pilots are requested to use frequency 122.9 to announce intentions on landing and departing." Permanent signs will be installed at each airport designating 122.9 to be used. Signs will also be made available to those FBO's in outlying areas.

We feel this is a serious matter and hope you do too. More on traffic advisory practices at non-tower airports next month.

Going to Oshkosh?

The Bureau of Aeronautics in the State of Wisconsin has asked that we share a few suggestions if any of you Montana pilots intend on flying to the annual Oshkosh Experimental Aircraft Association Fly-In. This years fly-in will be held the week of August 2 through 9 with the International Aerobatic competition held the following week.

According to the Bureau's office many of the accidents are fuel related. Hopefully this year more accidents can be prevented with everyone's assistance.

Please keep the following in mind:

1. Don't stretch your fuel range.
2. Call ahead to be sure fuel is available.

able.

3. Be sure to see if appropriate octane rating fuel is available.

Other safety suggestions are:

1. Be wary of the weather! Conditions can change quickly and lake effect fog can develop in minutes.
2. Make use of Flight Service Station services.
3. File a Flight Plan.
4. Don't overextend yourself, fatigue causes numerous accidents each year.

We hope that by placing special emphasis on these problems this year all of our Montana pilots will safely complete their flights to Oshkosh and return.

Av Ed Scholarships

We were pleased to present three young people with scholarships from our Division. Chris Walter from Kalispell scored 100 on his private pilots test and 95 on his commercial test. He currently has his Class III Medical Exam and also his F.C.C. radiotelephone operators permit. \$250 worth of flight instruction was awarded to this young man.

Bruce Ferguson, who is currently enrolled in the Aviation Maintenance Program at the Helena Vocational Technical Center, was awarded \$250 toward the purchase of aviation tools of his choice. Bruce was selected on the basis of his academic standing in the A & P student enrollment.

The third individual receiving a scholarship from the Division was Rod Strom. Rod is from Miles City and achieved one of the highest grades in his class. He received \$250 worth of flight instruction at the fixed base operator of his choice.

We would like to congratulate these three young men on their achievement and would like to encourage teachers and administrators throughout the state who are involved in aviation education to provide us with the names of outstanding students interested in this scholarship.



Bill Ferguson, student in the Aviation Maintenance Program at Helena Vo-Tech, being congratulated by Mike Ferguson (left) and his instructor, Bill Chambers (right) upon receiving a \$250 scholarship toward the purchase of aviation mechanics tools.



Chris Walter, recipient of a \$250 flight scholarship from the Aeronautics Division.

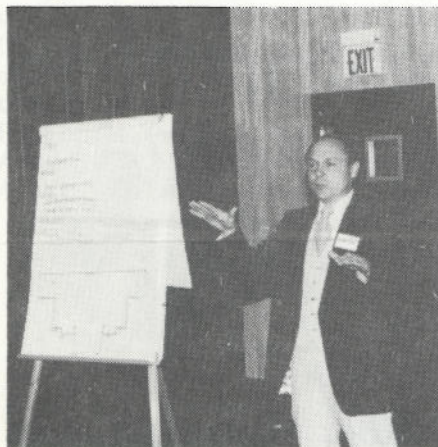
Montana Pilots Assoc



Gary Blain received the Junior Pilot of the Year Award during the MPA banquet.



John Williams, Chief of the Great Falls Flight Service Station, spoke at the convention on the flight service station modernization.



Jim Erkens, Billings FAA, spoke on Air Traffic Control during the MPA convention.



Lalonnie and Larry Larson provided some excellent entertainment during the 1980 MPA convention.



During the MPA business meeting.

The Montana Pilots Association held their annual convention in Billings at the Holiday Inn West on June 13 and 14.

During the meeting new officers were elected. They are as follows:

President - Lee Baker, Lewistown
 Western Vice President - Chet Sammons, Cut Bank
 Eastern Vice President - Doug Campbell, Glasgow
 Treasurer - Ray Curtis, Billings
 Western Director - Ray Tocci, Three Forks
 Eastern Director, Jess Appedaile, Billings
 Secretary - Patricia Johnson, Helena

In addition to the officer election and reports on the status of the organization, the near 100 pilots attending the Saturday program heard a variety of talks, topped off by a Saturday night banquet address by AOPA President John Baker of Washington, D.C.

Honored during the banquet was Mike Ferguson, Director of the Aeronautics Division within the State. He was given a number of awards for his service to general aviation.

Also speaking during the day were Paul McAfee about the ATC system, Mr. Ferguson on the state's aviation problems and John Williams of the Great Falls FSS on the status of the Flight Service Station modernization program in Montana.

Honored during the banquet as Pilot of the Year was Bob Van Meter of Helena. Mr. Ferguson was named senior pilot of the year and 16-year-old Gary Blain was honored as junior pilot of the year. An article featuring Gary's solo flight of 58 aircraft appeared in the December, 1979, issue of *Montana and the Sky*. Larry Eliason was given the Bill Mathews Award which is presented to handicapped pilots.

John Baker told the nearly 200 attending the Saturday evening banquet that FAA and the Office of Management and Budget are trying to

ciation Convention

continue raiding the trust fund. He explained that the budget is seeking \$7 billion for airport development over the next five years. At the same time that the fund is being raided, Baker said the lawmakers and FAA leaders are crying that general aviation isn't paying its fair share of the load of operating the system.

The spokesman for the 250,000-member pilot organization told the Montana group that DOT wants to cut services to aviation but increase the tax bite. "Stop sending clowns to Washington," he cautioned. "Find out what these candidates think about general aviation before the election."

The Montana group agreed to hold next year's meeting in Glasgow and go to Cut Bank the following year.



During the Saturday evening banquet.



Don Hawkins, Hawkins Avionics, spoke on the principles and operation of the Ryan thunderstorm scope, a new concept in weather avoidance.

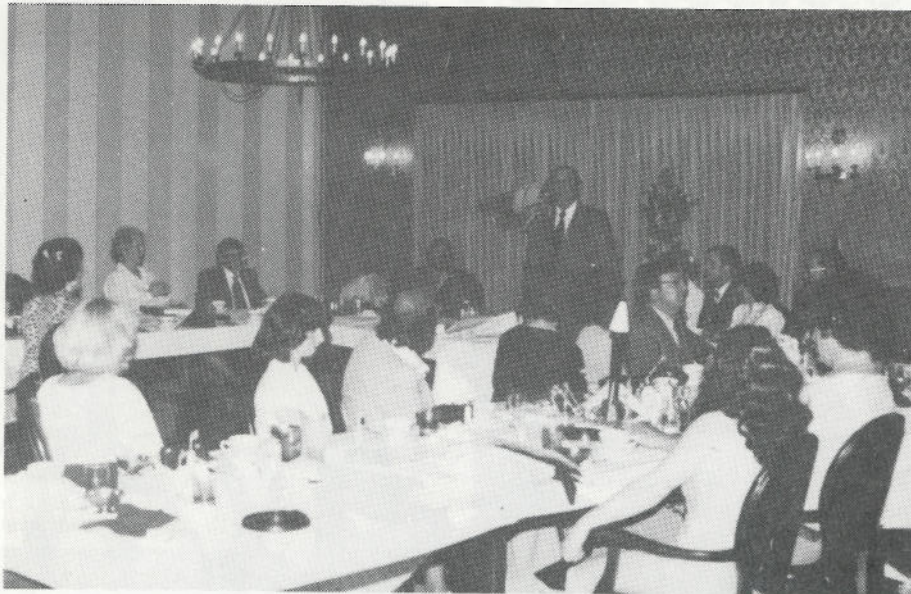


John Baker, President of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, was the featured speaker Saturday evening.



Mike Ferguson, Administrator of the Aeronautics Division, upon receiving presentations from the Montana Aeronautics Board, the Montana Pilots Association and the Federal Aviation Administration, at the MPA Convention.

Butte Aerospace Teacher Workshop Banquet



Bob Conklin, Director of the Butte Aerospace Teacher Workshop hosted the banquet.



Mike Ferguson presented Certificates of Appreciation to JoAnn Eisenzimer, Great Falls Aerospace Teacher Workshop Director, and the other workshop directors in attendance.



Bill Horvath, Education Specialist for NASA, provided a few interesting stories and comments during the Butte Aerospace Teacher Workshop banquet.



Helen Frizzell, President of the American Society for Aerospace Education, "pinned" Mike Ferguson and presented him with a Certificate of Membership on behalf of the Society during the Butte teacher Workshop banquet on June 26.

Meadow Creek Fly-In

The Civil Air Patrol is sponsoring a work session/fly-in at Meadow Creek on July 19 and 20. Everyone is welcome to come. Please bring a shovel along. Come prepared to camp overnight or just bring the family in for the day with a picnic lunch. See you there!

Fuel Allocations Back Up

Phillips Petroleum said that it is once again filling 100 percent of its contract commitments for aviation gasoline, retroactive to May 1. Phillips had to reduce avgas allocations earlier this year due to an explosion and fire at its Borger, Texas refinery. Phillips said they are now able to make 100 percent allocations because of exchange agreements with other refiners and accelerated production of avgas at other Phillips facilities.



Director of the Helena Aerospace Teacher Workshop, Pat Johnson (left), received an aerospace education pin and Certificate of Membership in the American Society for Aerospace Education during the Butte banquet.



Bob Conklin was also "pinned" by Helen Frizzell during the Butte banquet.

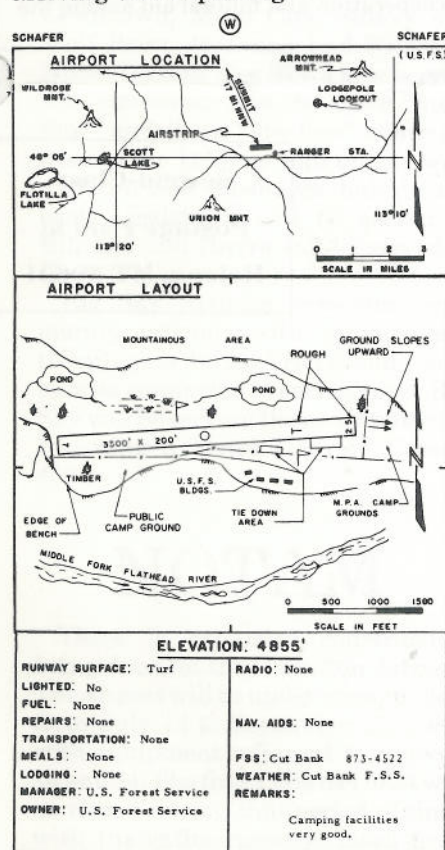
Schafer Meadows Fly-In

By: Jerry Burrows
Aviation Representative

The airport was inspected by Jack Wilson and myself a few weeks ago and it's in the best condition we've ever seen. The two campgrounds were in excellent shape so with the cooperation of Mother Nature it should be an excellent weekend for the fly-in being held on July 25, 26, and 27.

Cut Bank Flight Service Station can talk with aircraft over the airport at about 8,000' and above. Herb Sammons, Cut Bank, our office, or nearby FBO's may be contacted if you have questions about the fly-in or if you haven't landed there before.

Remember to use 122.9 when arriving and departing.



Flight Plans are a nuisance only to the pilots who should have filed them.

MLS New Airport Office Building

A plaque with a picture and information about Frank Wiley, for whom Frank Wiley Field was named, was added the end of May as the final touch to the new building at the Miles City airport to be used to house the Miles City Aero Service offices, plus a pilot lounge, snack corner and rest rooms.

The building was started last fall and cost \$55,000, and is now leased to the Aero Service. Additional space was included to have room for visiting pilots or persons waiting for private planes.

Also being considered is remodeling of the airline offices which has been leased to Frontier Airlines and will now have a new tenant, Big Sky Airlines, which took over airline flights in the Miles City area.

Responsible for the improvements and plans at Frank Wiley Field is the city-county airport commission. Walter Ulmer is chairman and represents the county; Mayor Dean Holmes represents the City of Miles City; Bill Boulware, who is president of the local hangar for the Montana Pilots Association, represents the flying public; and a former longtime member of the airport commission, Dr. Lloyd Bowman, is an advisor and unofficial member.

CONGRATULATIONS!

FAA Certificates Issued Recently to Pilots

PRIVATE

Peter L. Lumb, Big Sky (Balloon)
Ronald W. Gould, Billings
Mary A. Brenden, Scooby
Stephen J. Kline, Williston
James D. Kennedy, Billings
George B. Stewart, Billings
Charles B. Leibfried, Malta
Walter F. Williamson, Great Falls
(Add MEL)

Roy S. Neumiller, Malta
Roy E. Dirkes, Power
Cletus C. Leinen, Poplar
Jay R. Swennes, Libby
Cheryl D. Landt, Kalispell

Emil W. Erhardt, Bozeman
David A. Buck, Hall
Ronald C. Nelson, Choteau
John Heidema, Manhattan
Arthur D. Kuipers, Bozeman
Ryan H. Sandvig, Fort Benton
George B. Hardy, Great Falls
Michael W. Counter, Butte
Andrew C. Hupe, Dillon
James G. Huston, Wolf Point
Rodney J. Stevens, Kalispell
Paula J. Smith, Milltown
Douglas C. Olsen, Roberts
Gilbert M. Dermott, Great Falls
James H. Bouma, Choteau
Paul S. Heaphy, Anaconda
Joseph C. Scott, Great Falls

COMMERCIAL

Thomas E. Marchwick, Belgrade
Kenneth R. DeBree, Helena
(Rtrcft & Heli)
Gary M. Jones, Missoula
Daniel C. Meine, Dillon (Instrument)
Dale F. Klugman, Helena
Dale R. Hovdey, Missoula
(Add Instrument)
Gary L. LaCasse, Plentywood
Dale R. Sanford, Laurel

MULTI-ENGINE

Carter E. Jensen, Hinsdale
(Commercial)
Arne R. Scarpholt, Glendive (CFI)
Donald L. Anderson, Billings (ATP)

INSTRUCTOR

Norman B. Knox, Billings (Renew)
Thomas L. Kuhlman, Roundup
(Reinst)
A.J. Patenaude, Red Lodge (Renew)
Gary R. Meyer, Billings (Add Instru)
Dale R. Sanford, Laurel
Judith A. Herrod, Billings (Reinst)
Bron T. Herrod, Billings (Reinst)
Arne Scarpholt, Glendive
(Add Instru)
Fred W. Hasskamp, Hamilton
(Renew)
William E. Rah, Livingston (Renew)
Gregory A. Northcutt, Bozeman
(Renew)

Virgil D. Clark, Anaconda (Renew)
Thomas E. Marchwick, Belgrade
Richard A. Danylieko, Billings
(Add Rtrcft & Heli)
Louis A. Norton, Butte (Commercial)
Keith P. Johnson, Butte (CASL &
& MEL - Renew)
Merton P. Myhre, Helena (Add MEL)
Philip Brod, Jr., Great Falls
(Add Instrument)
Robert L. Groom, Libby (Renew)
David W. Robinson, Boulder (Renew)
Dennis H. Giulio, Boulder (Renew)
Michael J. Morrison (Add MEL)

Calendar

July 19 & 20 - 3rd Annual Beacon Star Antique Airfield Fly-In.

July 19 & 20 - Work session/fly-in at Meadow Creek Airport (see article).

July 25, 26, & 27 - Schafer Meadows Fly-In/Aeronautics Board Meeting.

August 2 to 9 - Oshkosh EAA Fly-in, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

August 3 to 8 - International Flying Farmers 35th Annual Convention, San Diego.

August 6 to 10 - Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association, semi-annual meeting, Harrison Hot Springs, B.C. Canada. Contact David Prewitt (215) 546-5366 for details.

August 24 - Baker Hangar Fly-in. Breakfast, spot landings, flour bombing and a model airplane show are on the agenda. For further information contact Russ Culver, 778-2422.

September 19 to 21 - Mountain Search Pilot Clinic. Will have further details in next issue of *Montana and the Sky*.

Sept. 26 & 27 - North Dakota Flying Farmers Convention Art Clair Motel, Devils Lake, N.D.

Sept. 26 to Oct. 5 - Montreal International Air Show. Mirabel Int'l Airport, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Contact Nick Bonamy (514) 337-5500 for further details.

October 3 to 5 - Montana Flying Farmers Convention, Colonial Inn, Helena.

October 4 - Halloween Air Race.

A Flight Instructor's Credo
*Lord, he will walk in my image and as I have taught him,
 Therefore, let me not make the small, careless mistakes, but help me to show him that the right way is the safe way, so he will fly again tomorrow.*

If I may, Lord, pray a lot, scold a bit, cuss a mite, so he can fly safely all his life.

(Courtesy of Mr. George Holey)

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MEMBER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS

PURPOSE— "To foster aviation, as an industry, as a mode of transportation for persons and property and as an arm of the national defense; to join with the Federal Government and other groups in **research, development, and advancement of aviation**; to develop uniform laws and regulations; and to otherwise encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the several states."



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